



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES
Maryland's Social Services Agency



PRESS RELEASE

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**BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR
MOLLY MCGRATH EARNS AWARD FOR INNOVATION**

BALTIMORE – Baltimore City Department of Social Services (BCDSS) Director Molly McGrath earned the Charles Mathias, Jr. Award for Innovation in State Public Service, presented to her today by the Maryland Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA).

The organization cited McGrath's success in developing and implementing programs that have improved the well-being of vulnerable children in Baltimore City. Since 1939, ASPA has been the nation's most respected society representing all forums in the public service arena and is committed to the advancement of excellence in public service.

Department of Human Resources Secretary Brenda Donald named McGrath BCDSS director in September of 2008. Since then, McGrath has led a comprehensive reform effort. She is widely credited with establishing a mandatory training module for supervisors, improving front-line service to customers, collecting better data and using that data to inform decisions and improve services.

This recognition is a validation of the administration's commitment to smart, efficient government that provides quality services to the people of our State, including its most vulnerable citizens," said Governor Martin O'Malley.

"Molly is high-quality, high-energy and highly experienced," said Donald. "She has the skills and vision we needed to help transform BCDSS into the flagship agency for the DHR."

The Baltimore City Department of Social Services is the largest of the 24 local social services agencies in Maryland and has an annual budget of \$610 million and 2,400 employees in 19 different locations throughout the city. It handles approximately 60 percent of state's total social services cases.

McGrath was honored at the ASPA's 2010 Public Service Innovations in Government Conference held today in Annapolis, which included welcome remarks from Maryland House of Delegates Speaker Michael E. Busch.

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The Maryland Department of Human Resources is the state's social service provider. The agency collaborates with 24 local jurisdictions to: provide foster care, adoption, and protective services to children; collect and distribute child support payments; provide protective

- Martin O'Malley, Governor
- Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
- Brenda Donald, Secretary

services, case- management, supportive housing, in-home aide services, and respite care to vulnerable adults; and provide temporary cash, food stamps and medical assistance to families. It also funds programs for homeless persons, refugees, and migrant- workers, victims of crime and women who are displaced, battered, or assaulted. Last year, DHR served 760,000 people in need. In terms of its annual budget, DHR is Maryland's fourth largest state agency